

# Borough of Rocky Hill

## Council Minutes

January 17, 2006

A regular meeting of the Rocky Hill Borough Council was called to order by Mayor George Morren Jr. at 7:32 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country and a moment of silent meditation. It was announced that this meeting has been advertised in the Somerset Messenger Gazette issue of December 14, 2005 in accordance with “The Open Public Meetings Act”.

***Roll Call:***

**Present**

- Mr. Richard Batchelder
- Mr. Brian Griner
- Mr. Bradford Merritt
- Ms. Eileen Uhrik
- Mr. Jared Witt
- Mr. Edward Zimmerman

***Minutes***

The minutes of the January 2, 2006 Reorganization Meeting of the Rocky Hill Borough Council were approved as presented with a motion by Mr. Griner, second by Mr. Batchelder. On a roll call vote Mr. Witt abstained; all others voted aye.

The minutes of the January 2, 2006 regular meeting of the Rocky Hill Borough were approved as presented with a minor correction on a motion by Mr. Merritt, second by Mr. Batchelder. On a roll call vote Mr. Witt abstained; all others voted aye.

***Public Comment***

Ms. C. Petrane thanked Borough Council for the pavilion to be installed behind Borough Hall.

***Engineer’s report***

A copy is on file with the Borough Clerk.

Mr. Tanner said he is still working on issues with the EPA on the Gamma Tech Site. Phase I construction at Van Horne Park have been completed and the Borough will have to appropriate by Ordinance funds to complete phase II in 2006. Rocky Hill’s share of the cost is \$70,000.00. The State has extended to April 2006 the time for Rocky Hill to have a contract to complete the side walk on Princeton Avenue. The drainage work on Princeton Avenue will begin soon. Mr. Tanner and several Councilmembers will meet to look at the proposed parking lot expansion at the ARC Home on Young Drive.

Mr. White asked about overflow problem at the pond on Crescent Avenue and was told Mr. Tanner will look into the problem

***State Police Report;***

Trooper Carbone and Lt. Duka stated they looked forward to working with Rocky Hill in 2006 and said there are several youth programs available and they will be starting a community policing program soon in Rocky Hill.

***Transfers in the 2005 Municipal Budget***

Mr. Batchelder moved by RESOLUTION, second by Mr. Witt the following transfers.

To Legal Service	OE	\$2000.00
To Planning Board	OE	\$1000.00
From Recycling	OE	\$2000.00
From Streets & Roads	OE	\$1000.00

On a roll call vote all present voted aye

***Bill List***

Mr. Batchelder presented the following RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS THE TREASURER HAS CERTIFIED THAT SUFFICIENT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE TO PAY SAID VOUCHERS: BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING VOUCHERS BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT. Second by Mr. Merritt. On a roll call vote all present voted aye. See appendix #1 for the bill list.

***Committee Reports***

**Administration & Records:** Mr. Witt stated he is preparing a resolution to close the Tennis Assoc acct.

**Buildings & Grounds;** Mr. Zimmerman said the Nursery School asked if they could rent more space and were told there is no more space to rent. OBS Machines has loaned a recorder to the Planning Board for the Public Hearing on Thursday January 19, 2006 of the Schafer Estates Application. He said he has received two quotes for a PC based

recording device approved by the NJ Courts and is waiting for a third. He said everyone at the recent demo of the recorders was very impressed with the PC based system at a cost of about \$8000.00

**Finance & Insurance:** Mr. Batchelder reported everyone should have a copy of the recent tax report and the 2006 budget process will start very soon.

**Public Safety/ Emergency Services:** Mr. Griner reported that the Constables issued two warnings for sidewalk snow removal and two parking summons. They also responded to two emergency calls. The December Court handled four parking tickets and forty two moving violations and Rocky Hill received \$1100.00.

**Streets & Roads:** Ms. Uhrik stated her report was covered by the Engineer.

**Water, Sewer, & Environmental Protection:** Mr. Merritt said he had not received a report from Mr. Merk at this time.

**Council Rep. to Planning Board:** Mr. Batchelder said the Planning Board reorganized and heard a concept review from the perspective new owners of the Rocky Hill Pub.

**Council Rep. to Board of Education:** Mr. Witt stated their next meeting will be January 25, 2006. He also said the superintendent of Montgomery Twp. Schools is leaving his Position in June 2006.

**Council Rep. to Board of Health;** No Report.

**Zoning Official:** report on file. It was discussed that there are two people interested in becoming Deputy Zoning Officers. It will be determined by Mr. Cruz how to create the positions.

## ***Special Business***

Mr. Merritt moved, second by Mr. Batchelder the appointment of Mr. Robert Morrison as Borough Auditor. On a roll call vote all present voted aye.

Mr. Witt Moved, second by Mr. Merritt the RESOLUTION Temporary Emergency Appropriation the reconstruction of Princeton Avenue \$62,000.00 from the current fund. On a roll call vote all present voted aye. See appendix #2 for the Resolution

Mayor George Morren made the following appointments: to the Board of Health Dr. Betty Haynes and the Recreation Committee Ms. Amy Gottschalk. Mr. Zimmerman moved, second by Mr. Witt approval the appointments. On a roll call vote all present voted aye.

## ***Communications***

They were discussed and ordered filed.

## ***Unfinished Business***

A towing Ordinance for Rocky Hill Borough will be introduced after discussing same with the State Police and South Bound Brook Police.

It was decided to have the Clerk purchase a new answering machine for the Borough.

## ***New Business***

Mr. Griner said he had been contacted by Mr. Querec, of the Rocky Hill First Aid Squad, about the disposition of the old ambulance. Mr. Moore said his contact in Jackson Mississippi will be back Thursday and he will talk to him about the ambulance.

It was asked if anyone is watching the expenses of the professionals on the WAWA application in Montgomery Twp. Mayor Morren said he would check it out.

Mr. Yuchmow asked if elected and appointed officials of the Borough are protected by the Borough in case of law suits.

Mr. Cruz says it depends on several factors. There is no simple answer.

Mr. Witt moved, second by Mr. Zimmerman to go into executive session to discuss personnel matter of attorney – client privilege. On a roll call vote all present voted aye. 9:30PM.

Mr. Merritt moved, second by Mr. Witt to return to public session. On a roll call vote all present voted aye. 10:28PM

## ***Public Comment***

Nothing at this time.

## ***Adjournment***

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Zimmerman, second by Mr. Merritt. On a voice vote all present voted aye. 10:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond E. Whitlock Jr.  
Borough Clerk